From: Chan,Grace L
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2004 12:43 PM
To: Dabbs, Paul
Subject: Comments to Jan 30 Cal Water Plan

Attached are comments to what my staff and I could get to at this time.
<<Comments on January 30.doc>>

I have also forwarded my comments to Fran Spivy-Weber on the South Coast write-up. I still maintain that the template used is not conducive to telling the story. Fran tried to force fit some of the thoughts into the template. I am enclosing my story, DWR may think about ways to change the template for all regions to better illustrate how water management has evolved over time in the regions.

<<Executive Summary Outline for South Coast Region.doc>>

Grace L. Chan

Executive Summary Outline for South Coast Region

Region currently contains half of the state's population and economy. Average precipitation for the region is about 14 inches per year.

Brief history of water development

- In the early part of the 20th century, the region was mostly dependent on what it could find locally.
- Then came the dream of aqueducts and reality of getting water from faraway places.
- First is the Los Angeles Aqueduct with voters' approval in 1907 and project completed in 19137. [There should be parallel construction for the other regions. South Coast Region is not the only one with the aqueduct dream. East Bay's Mokelume canal, EBMUD formed, 1923, project complete 1929; San Francisco's Hetchy-Hetchy system, 1913 Raker's Act, 1934 project complete]
- In the 1940s and 50s, the Colorado River became a major source of Southland water. The State Water Project started water delivery to this region in the 70's; initially to blend with CRA water to improve salinity for the region.
- Limitations in both sources of imported supply and the drought of the late 80's have challenged water managers to develop additional local resources in order to provide the water reliability to support the region's economy.

Figure illustrating sources of water for the region

Region has a diverse water portfolio today

- Today, the region has a diverse water portfolio that contains a 50-50 balance of local and imported supplies. [Need to verify w/ data from water agencies outside MWD]
- To achieve this balance, the region employs xx of the 25 water management strategies. The water portfolios 1998, 2000, and 2001, that is include in this section, illustrates how water is managed in wet, average, and dry years to maintain water supply reliability for the region. [Water portfolios should show water being stored in wet years, and extracted in dry years. Also should have an estimate of conservation savings.]
- According to water plans prepared by local and regional agencies, all 25 strategies will be used to enhance water reliability for the next 25 years.

Table listing the 25 strategies and those being used currently and in the future.

Goals, objectives and values

- The South Coast Region has identified a balance water portfolio of local and imported supplies based on the several key objectives of reliability, affordability, ability to meet regional water quality objectives, flexibility to adjust to future changes, and risk reduction through diversification

- In additional, the regional goals and values expressed by some representatives on the ac include:
  - Continue to develop available water to support population growth and economic development.
  - Drought proofing the region will allow less dependence on other sources of water.
  - Develop a diverse source of water.
  - Enhance the use of aquifer capacity.
  - Conjunctive use programs should ensure acceptable water quality standards.
  - CALFED implementation resulting in improved source water quality for the region.

Current and Future Challenges

While the diverse water portfolio has worked well for the region in weathering through the driest year on record for the region in 2001 and extraordinary conditions in 2003, including sudden reduction of CRA supplies, fire causing power disruptions, and ashes causing water quality problems. Water managers face many challenges today and into the future:

Current Challenges:

- Health Department restrictions and guidelines is a challenge for ground water/conjunctive use
- Develop institution frame work for groundwater implementation and water transfers
- Address the developing desalination programs.
  - Environmental Consideration
  - Public-private issues
- Conservation programs should address outdoor water use, CII programs and educating the consumer and landscapers.
- Enhance recycled water programs to ensure public acceptance.
- Watershed management should provide water supply and water quality improvements.

Future Challenges:

- Continue to address economic development and population growth.
- Replacing and retrofitting the aging infrastructure is a financial challenge that must be confronted.
- Water quality uncertainties such as, known and unknown contaminate and increasingly stringent standards.
- Decreased infiltration due to urban development.
- Other future uncertainties e.g. unexpected growth, endangered species, climate change

Partnership

Partnerships among various entities are key to maintaining and further developing the diverse and balance portfolio
Land use and water agencies – coordinate to provide the reliability to serve population and businesses
Many water and wastewater agencies involved in implementing resource strategies – state (SWP and CALFED and funding of various strategies), regional water importers, retail water providers (implement water use efficiency measures and local resource development), groundwater mangers, surface water masters, and wastewater agencies – each has a role to play.